

July 16, 2003

## Arlen Lee Stange

- The funeral for Arlen Lee Stange, 42, of rural Stratford will be at 2 p.m., Thursday, July 17, 2003, at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, 1620 Milwaukee Avenue, Aberdeen. The Rev. Ronald Jensen will officiate. Burial will be in Oakwood Cemetery in West Rondell Township under the direction of Miller-Huebl Funeral Home, 1111 South Main Street.
- There will be a public prayer service at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the funeral home. Visitation will be from noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday and from 9 a.m. until noon Thursday, all at the funeral home. There will also be visitation for one hour prior to the service Thursday at the church.
- He died Saturday, July 12, 2003, on the farm that he loved.
- Arlen Lee Stange was born in Aberdeen on October 14, 1960, to Gary and Myrna (Wilke) Stange of rural Stratford. He



was baptized and confirmed at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Ferney.

- He attended school in Groton and graduated from Groton High School in 1979. While studying agriculture at South Dakota State University in Brookings, he worked at a lumberyard and custom combined during the summers. He bought his farm in 1981. While beginning farming, he worked part-time at John Deere Equipment in Aberdeen. His care for the land was evident during his 22 years of farming. He was an expert in welding, design and construction.
- He married Leila Lenling on June 25, 1988, at St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Aberdeen. He became a father on Father's Day, June 17, 1990, when Carolyn was born. Carson completed their family on June 8, 1992. His family was very important to him and they knew that he loved them. He filled their lives with his love, acceptance, kindness and gentle strength.
- He was a member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church of Aberdeen. His strong, deep faith in God gave his life meaning, purpose and hope. He had been chairman of the congregation for seven years at St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Stratford.
- He was a South Dakota Wheat Growers delegate and an East Rondell Township Board supervisor. He was nominated for Outstanding Young Farmer.
- He enjoyed baseball, having played it as a child. He enjoyed flying in a paraplane and viewing the beauty of the land from above. He had a love for the animals on the farm, especially the cows and the new life they brought every spring.
- Survivors include his loving wife and children of rural Stratford; his parents of rural Stratford; three brothers, Kent (Sue) Stange of Phoenix, Arizona, Keith (Shelly) Stange of Randolph and Kyle Stange of Newnan, Georgia.
- He was preceded in death by his grandparents.
- Casket bearers will be Buzz McNeil, John Ellingson, Torre Raap, Lee Thompson, Al Ryckman, Gregg Erickson, Val Jark and Laef Johnson.